

I am writing to you about NAB's petition 04-160. I just installed my satellite radio a couple months ago. What a relief! I live in a mountainous area where I cannot get local channels as I am travelling from one place to another, So my argument for XM's competition with local channels is, What local channel? You have no idea how nice it is to go anywhere now and have music, talk shows, whatever I want to listen to, WHEN I want to listen to it.

I believe that if XM were allowed to carry local news, it would also take care of my being able to hear the local news and weather as I need it and WHEN I want it. Right now I have to wait for 5 commercials to hear 2 songs I can't stand and 5 more announcements, and then maybe I'll get a blurb that coming up on the local news is.....

I understand the idea of tag lines to hold an audience, TV does it all the time. But in today's world where people are moving at a faster pace, that extra 3 minutes you hold me to wait for the local story, infuriates me. It does not ingratiate me to the local radio market. That's why so many people have CD's and rarely turn on the radio. With satellite radio I now rarely play anything else but my radio.

I agree with XM's right to compete and force the industry to change. As it was said in one of the articles I read, if something is going on at a particular moment, we can always tune to a local channel and listen through the blah blah blah to get the story as it happens. I don't believe XM poses a threat to the local industry, I believe it will enhance it.

Please reject NAB's petition 04-160.